

BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY ADVANCES IN SNOWPLOWING

Snowplows in the late 1950s, such as the one pictured here, required two people to operate: a driver to navigate and a “wingman” to raise and lower the plow using the mechanical levers in the truck.

Operating these snowplows was no easy task. It involved a lot of muscle power and cabs were cramped and unheated. At the time, vee plows, named for their unique v-shape, were only able to push snow in two directions. This required plow drivers to do a lot of extra maneuvering just to get the snow pushed where they wanted it.

Technology in snowplowing has come a long way. Today, snowplows run on hydraulic systems. Only one person is needed to drive the truck and, with the touch of a button, raise and lower the plow. The advent of the reversible plow meant that snow could be pushed in any direction, not just straight ahead. Packed with more horsepower, new trucks can also push a lot more snow, while operators enjoy such creature comforts as heat and adjustable seats.

See page 8 for information on what to do during a snow event.



NOVEMBER ELECTION RESULTS VOTERS SELECT CITY COUNCIL FOR 2012

Familiar faces and one new representative will make up the Bloomington City Council beginning January 2012. Mayor Gene Winstead and Councilmember Vern Wilcox (District IV) were reelected to their seats in the November General Election that had a nearly 22 percent voter turnout.

Tim Busse, who currently holds the District III seat, was elected to the Councilmember At Large seat, left vacant by Amy Grady, who decided not to seek reelection.

Retired Real Estate Developer Jack Baloga was elected to the District III seat.

According to City Clerk Janet Lewis, 11,106 ballots were cast during the November 8 General Election.

“The City values residents’ responsiveness in local government and for taking time to exercise their right to vote on Election Day,” Lewis said.

MAYOR

GENE WINSTEAD, a Bloomington resident for 37 years, has served on numerous boards and commissions in the community. Winstead said he will continue to work to maintain the strong financial management and strength of the City.

“We will need to address the challenges of our changing and aging community,” Winstead said. “And work to keep vital all of our neighborhoods and renew commercial areas.”



COUNCILMEMBER, AT LARGE

Communications Director for University Services at the University of Minnesota **TIM BUSSE** will fill the Councilmember At Large seat after serving eight months in the District III seat left vacant by the resignation of Steve Elkins.

“It has been a great honor to represent and serve the community as a member of the City Council,” Busse said.



COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT III

Retired Commercial Real Estate Developer **JACK BALOGA** has served on the Bloomington Planning Commission for six years, Charter Commission for one year and Citizens Task Force for nearly two years. Baloga has also served as an election judge.

“As councilmember, I will continue to serve the citizens of District III by applying the significant knowledge I have obtained through years of civic and volunteer participation,” Baloga said.



COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT IV

VERN WILCOX has served on the City Council for the past 18 years. He hopes to use his experience to continue to give back to the community and preserve the quality of life in Bloomington.

“My 42-year history of community involvement has proven my ability to work with people to insure sound solutions to complex problems,” said Wilcox.



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BLOOMINGTON IS A do. town

CITIES TEAM UP WITH BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD

Bloomington, Richfield and Edina are partnering with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota on a new initiative to remove barriers to healthy living in our community and support people in their efforts to be healthier. The initiative, called “*do. town*,” focuses on preventing illness caused by unhealthy eating and physical inactivity, see page 2. To get involved, visit do-town.org.

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